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Immortal Classic Works of the Great Leader Comrade KIM IL SUNG Published in Various Countries

The Hindi version of "Kim Il Sung: Selected Works" Vol. II was published by the All India-Korea Friendship Association.

A collection of the immortal classic works of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung was brought out by the "Dar-Talia" Publishing House of Lebanon.

Contained in it are: "Report to the Second Congress of the Workers' Party of North Korea on the Work of the Central Committee", "Every Effort for Victory in the War", "Everything for the Postwar Rehabilitation and Development of the National Economy", "Report on the Work of the Central Committee to the Fourth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea", "Let Us Strengthen the Revolutionary Forces in Every Way to Achieve the Cause of Reunification of the Country", "Reply to the Letter of the President of the Korean Affairs Institute in Washington", "Report to the Fifth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea on the Work of the Central Committee", "The Common Struggle of the Revolutionary Peoples of Asia against US Imperialism Will Surely Win Victory", "Let Us Prevent a National Split and Reunify the Country" and "Let Us Achieve National Reunification and World Peace through Struggle."

The Beirut Publishing House in Lebanon published a collection of the classic works authored by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, which contained: "On Eliminating Dogmatism and Formalism and Establishing Juche in Ideological Work", "On Socialist Construction in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the South Korean Revolution", "Let Us Embody the Revolutionary Spirit of Independence, Self-Sustenance and Self-Defence More Thoroughly in All Fields of State Activity", "Answers to the Questions Raised by Ali Balout, Correspondent of the Lebanese Newspaper Al Anwar", "On Some Problems of Our Party's Juche Idea and the Government of the Republic's Internal and External Policies" and "Talk with the Managing Editor of the Japanese Politico-Theoretical Magazine Sekai".

The Swedish version of his immortal classic works "On the Situation of Our Country and Tasks of the League of Korean Youth in Japan" and "Talk with the Director of 'Daho Express', Official Newspaper of the Dahomeyan Government" were published by the Sweden-Korea Friendship Association. "Every Effort for the Country's Reunification and Independence and for Socialist Construction in the Northern Half of the Republic" was put out by the "Chamundra" Publishing House of Nepal; "On the Immediate Tasks of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea" and "On the Successful Accomplishment of the Technical Revolution", by the "Smurit" Publishing House of Nepal; "On Some Theoretical Problems of the Socialist Economy", by the "Victory" Publishing House in Iraq. The Norwegian version of his work "Talk with the Executive Director and Chief Editor of Iwanami Publishing House in Japan" and "On the Situation of Our Country and Tasks of the League of Korean Youth in Japan" were brought out by the Norway-Korea Friendship Association; "Let Us Further Consolidate and Develop the Great Successes Achieved in the Building of Socialist Countryside", by the "Siglo 20" Publishing House of Peru. The French version of his works "The US Imperialist Army of Aggression Must Unconditionally Withdraw from South Korea" and "On Bringing About a Fresh Upswing in Socialist Economic Construction" came off the press at the Geneva Publishing House of Switzerland.

His immortal classic works "Let Us Further Strengthen the Socialist System of Our Country", "Let Us Prevent a National Split and Reunify the Country", "On Some Problems of Our Party's Juche Idea and the Government of the Republic's Internal and External Policies" and "Talk with the Panamanian Journalist Delegation" were put out by the Panama-DPRK Association for Friendship and Cultural Exchange; "Talk to Delegation of Japan National Socialist Mayors Association", by the "Dimashk" Publishing House of Syria. The great leader's New Year Address for 1975 and his talk with the Editor-in-Chief of the Peruvian Paper "Expreso" and his wife were brought out by the "Mitamo" Publishing House of Burma.

Printed with due respect in these books is a portrait of the great revolutionary leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

The Swahilian version of the immortal classical works of the great leader "Let Us Further Consolidate and Develop the Great Successes Achieved in the Building of Socialist Countryside" and "On Speeding Up Construction of Socialism in the Countryside and Solidly Developing the Counties" came off the press in Tanzania.

The immortal classic works of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and "KIM IL SUNG: Biography" are published in different countries of the world

TELEGRAMS

✦ The respected and beloved leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Comrade **Kim Il**, Premier of the DPRK Administration Council, sent a message of greetings to Samdech **Norodom Sihanouk**, Head of State of Cambodia and Chairman of the National United Front of Kampuchea, and Prince **Penn Nouth**, Chairman of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Kampuchea and Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the formation of the National United Front of Kampuchea and the founding of the Cambodian National Liberation People's Armed Forces.

✦ The respected and beloved leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**, President of the DPRK, sent a message of greetings to **Chaudhri Fazal Elahi**, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, on the occasion of the Day of Pakistan.

✦ The respected and beloved leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, sent a message of greetings to Comrade **Lars Werner** on his election as Chairman of the Left Party Communists of Sweden.

✦ The respected and beloved leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**, President of the DPRK, received a message from **Sheikh Mujibur Rahman**, replying to his message of greetings sent on the latter's assumption of office as President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

✦ The respected and beloved leader Comrade **Kim Il Sung**, President of the DPRK, received a message from **Mohammad Reza Pahlavi**, Shahanshah of Iran, in reply to his message of sympathy sent to the latter following the earthquake in the southern area of Iran.

Meeting Held for Conveying Gifts from Comrade KIM IL SUNG, the Respected and Beloved Leader, to Damascus School of Bereaved Children of Martyrs in Syrian Arab Area

A grand meeting for conveying gifts sent from the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung to the Damascus School of Bereaved Children of Martyrs in the Syrian Arab area was held on the spot on March 18, according to a report from Damascus.

Put in place of honour on the platform of the meeting hall were a portrait of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and a portrait of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

The meeting unanimously adopted a letter extending deepest respects and warmest thanks to the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung amid enthusiastic applause of its attendants.

The meeting was attended by Ahmad Al Hassan, Member of the Syrian Regional Leadership of the Arab Baath Socialist Party and Director of a Department of the Party, authorized by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, and Major General Awadbag, Vice-Minister of Defence; Ahmad Kadir Aga, Vice-Minister of Education; Ahmad Al Hussein, Damascus City Party Secretary; and other dignitaries and personages.

The band struck up our Patriotic Song and national anthem of the Syrian Arab Republic when the meeting was declared open.

The gifts from the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung to the school of bereaved children of martyrs were courteously conveyed by Korean Ambassador Han Su Ik.

At the meeting speeches were made by Colonel Alisheq, Rector of the School; Ahmad Al Hassan, Member of the Syrian Regional Leadership of the Arab Baath Socialist Party and Director of a Department of the Party, and boy and girl representatives of the bereaved children.

Speakers extended deep gratitude to the respected and beloved leader President Kim Il Sung, the great fighter, for the valuable gifts to the bereaved children of Syrian martyrs and expressed warm feelings of respects and reverence for him who so loves the bereaved children.

Saying that the precious gifts sent by the great leader President Kim Il Sung were an eloquent demonstration of friendship and solidarity between the brothers of Korea and Syria, the speakers noted that the friendly relations between the two countries had further expanded and developed since the visit of President Hafez Al Assad to Korea.

All the speakers wished the Korean people greater successes in socialist construction and in the just struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country under the wise leadership of President Kim Il Sung.

Concluding their speeches, the speakers said with infinite reverence that they "extend greetings to the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in the name of the bereaved boys and girls." They loudly shouted: "Long live the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung!" and "Long live friendship between the Korean and Syrian peoples!"

The meeting closed with the playing of "Song of General Kim Il Sung".

"With the Founding of Great KIMILSUNGISM, a Bright Prospect of Revolution Spread and All the Progressive People of the World Came to Have the Powerful Ideological and Theoretical Weapon of Revolution"

Juche Idea Evokes Repercussions among World's People

The undying Juche idea founded by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung is gripping ever tighter the hearts of millions of people as the days roll on and the years go by.

Not only our people but the world revolutionary people as well have had the great guiding idea and guiding theory of revolution and construction since the brilliant rays of the great Juche idea were thrown on them.

Therefore, our friends of the world are unanimous in highly praising the Juche idea as "the bright beacon lighting the road of all the revolutionaries of the world" and "the only guiding idea of revolution and construction".

"Already in the first period of his revolutionary struggle, President Kim Il Sung, the great thinker and theorist, founded the undying Juche idea and has brightly illumined the road of the Korean people with its torchlight.

The great Juche idea propounding the truth that man is the master of everything and he decides everything is the most correct Marxist-Leninist guiding idea that leads the revolutionary struggle along a straight path of victory.

The founding of the Juche idea by the President—this is a great event which brought a revolutionary turn in the development of human thought and a world-historic event that developed Marxism-Leninism to a new, higher stage" (The Pakistani newspaper "Dawn").

"The Juche idea is a guiding idea that should be made the compass in developing the Korean revolution as well as the international communist movement and working class movement to a new, higher stage.

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the revolution, has taught: **'To establish Juche means holding fast to the principle of solving for oneself all problems of the revolution and construction in conformity with the actual conditions of one's country, and mainly by one's own efforts.'**

Now is a period when the communists of each country have to carry on the revolution of their country by themselves on their own responsibility and a new period when they should practically hew out a new road of socialist construction.

The Juche idea is a revolutionary and scientific guiding idea most correctly reflecting the principles of the communist movement and the demands of the developing international communist movement in its new historic stage.

The Juche idea throwing radiant rays like the sun is the undying revolutionary idea that the world people uphold" (Militissi Nikolas, a young activist of Africa).

"The influence of Juche can be felt everywhere we go.

It is felt in the political awakening and high national consciousness of all the Koreans. It can be felt in the national defence policy, foreign policy and socio-economic policies, at creches, schools, universities, hotels and shops, each cogwheel of all machines.

We may use the poetic expression that it is felt in the air people breathe.

These idea and theory are a superb philosophy that has brought wonderful successes and will bring greater successes" (Stanley Moore, peace champion of Australia).

"The Juche idea of the sagacious leader Comrade Kim Il Sung is contributing to the development of the revolutionary movement of the working class. This idea is closely linked with the principle of proletarian internationalism. This idea is the basis on which national egoism and national chauvinism are rejected and all the progressive revolutionary forces of the world are united" (Deputy Director of a Department of the Ministry of Education of Mali).

"The Juche idea is a brilliant, undying idea and the guiding idea of all of us opposing exploitation, oppression and injustice. It is an idea that indicates the fundamental stand and attitude for correctly solving all the problems arising in the revolution and construction. Therefore, the Juche idea is of universal significance; it is of creative nature, with its eternal vitality" (Abdul Gasim, a Sudanese lawyer).

"The Juche idea which was founded by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and whose justness has been tested in the practice of the Korean revolution is the guiding idea not only of the Korean revolution but also of all the people who want a genuine independence and strive to make a continued revolution, maintaining independence.

This Juche idea teaches the people of every country, who want to defend unity, preserve independence and make a continued advance, the essential truth which they should tightly grasp in their advance" (Riyard Haled Hassan, delegate of the Palestinian Liberation Organization).

"The developing countries of Africa should study how they should apply the Juche idea to suit the conditions peculiar to Africa.

It is a basic guarantee for the liberation of Africa as a whole that Africa becomes the master of its destiny.

Africa should establish Juche in all fields and firmly ensure independence and sovereignty, overcoming difficulties and defying sacrifice.

Africa needs a revolutionary doctrine in the practice for progress and in concretizing the struggle in Africa and in the struggle for achieving independence.

This revolutionary doctrine is the Juche idea. Therefore, Africa needs the Juche idea" (Editor of the Sierra Leone newspaper "Wiyon").

"The system of ideas and theories of President Kim Il Sung with the Juche idea as its quintessence towers high in the history of the development of Marxism-Leninism and it is the guiding idea, guiding theory and guiding method of our era.

Though I defined this ideological and theoretical system as 'Marxism-Leninism of our era' in the past, today I can call it 'Kimilsungism' without hesitation" (Kaoru Yasui, Chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the Japan-Korea Solidarity Committee of Social Scientists).

"President Kim Il Sung founded Kimilsungism with the Juche idea as its quintessence by embodying the Juche idea in revolution and construction.

Immortal Kimilsungism founded and systematized by the President is the most scientific stand and method of understanding and change of nature and society, the most correct idea, theory, strategy and tactics for the solution of all problems arising in the revolutionary struggle and the great idea illumining the most tested system and method and style of the leadership of the masses.

Kimilsungism is not simple inheritance and development of Marxism-Leninism but marks a great revolutionary turn in the sphere of human thought, and it is a true text book of struggle and life of our era in which its correctness and invincible vitality were tested to the full through practice.

With the founding of great Kimilsungism, a bright prospect of revolution spread and all the progressive people of the world came to have a shining militant banner vigorously propelling the onward movement of mankind, the powerful ideological and theoretical weapon of revolution" ("Juche Idea", organ of the Gumma Prefectural "Korean Affairs Institute", Japan).

"All the facts clearly show that President Kim Il Sung is the great leader of revolution whom mankind had thirstily awaited for a long period, the only central figure of the international communist movement and the eternal leader guaranteeing the final victory of the world revolution.

To defend and follow President Kim Il Sung—this is the proud duty commonly devolved on all the people who aspire after progress and democracy" (Mikiyasu Uchigashima, Member of the "Youth Society for Study of the Juche idea" in Tokyo, Japan).

"The noble name of President Kim Il Sung is throwing bright rays all over the world as he founded the great idea lighting the path of our century on the highest eminence of the history of human thought, the immortal idea which the world revolutionary people call 'Juche' in proper Korean" (Thomas Meynassan, Director of "Daho Express", official newspaper of the Dahomeyan Government).

"Repeal the Revitalized Constitution Ruinous to the Country!" "We Will Not Stop Valorous and Resourceful Struggle till Democracy Is Achieved"

Anti-fascist, Democratization Struggle of South Korean Students and People of Various Strata Gains in Scope

The south Korean students and people of all walks of life continue with the unflagging struggle, opposing the Pak Jung Hi fascist clique and demanding the democratic freedom.

FOR ABOLITION OF "REVITALIZED" SYSTEM AND DEMOCRATIZATION OF SOCIETY

According to a report from Seoul, the south Korean students and all sections of people are keeping up their vigorous struggle to abolish the "revitalized" system and democratize the south Korean society.

An indignation meeting took place on March 26 with the participation of more than 150 students of the Hanguk Theological College in Seoul, followed by a demonstration. The students carried placards reading: "Repeal the revitalized constitution ruinous to the country!" and so on and wore head-bands marked with the letters: "For defence of freedom and democratic constitutional government" and "Stop suppressing the press!" There was a clash with the puppet mobile police who tried to block the way at the school gate and fierce fight ensued.

That day students of the Koryo University in Seoul held a general student council and adopted a resolution which made clear their firm resolve to fight to the last against Pak Jung Hi's dictatorial regime and for campus freedom and the democratization of society.

The "Ex-detainee's Council for Restoration of Democracy" was inaugurated at a meeting held in Seoul on March 27, attended by 200 figures of various circles who strive for the democratization of south Korean society, dead set against the brutal military fascist system of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique.

The attendants of the meeting issued a statement in which they evinced their determination to continue to "wage a courageous and resourceful struggle till democracy is achieved" in defiance of such suppression as "illegal house arrest and walking to the police".

FOR THE CAMPUS FREEDOM AND REINSTATEMENT OF THE EXPELLED STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS

The student youth and other sections of the people in south Korea carry on a vigorous struggle against the campus suppression by the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique.

On March 27 over 5,000 students of the Yonse University held the third extraordinary general students meeting which adopted a declaration denouncing the Pak Jung Hi fascist bandits for banning the reinstatement of the released students and professors and then staged a demonstration.

They declared that they would wage a resolute, massive struggle against the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique in case their demand for the reinstatement of the expelled students and professors is rejected.

Meanwhile, more than 300 students of the Engineering College under the Seoul University, some 500 students of the Administrative Law College under the Yonse University and the students of the Songgyungwan University and the Chungang University had indignation meetings and general students meetings where statements, declarations and resolutions were adopted to demand the reinstatement of the removed students and dismissed professors and express their determination to fight for the campus freedom.

The members of the Christian Churchmen Corps for Realization of Justice which consists of over 500 pastors issued a declaration and statement calling for the reinstallment of the expelled students and professors.

AGAINST TRAITOR PAK JUNG HI'S PRESS GAG AND FOR FREEDOM OF SPEECH

The struggle of the pressmen, student youth and other segments of the people against the vicious and crafty press gag by the Pak Jung Hi fascist clique and for the defence of the freedom of speech is further expanding as days go by.

On March 28 the journalists and other employees of the "Tonga Ilbo" and the "Radio Tonga" held a meeting in front of the office of the "Tonga Ilbo" and issued a statement.

The statement expressed thanks to 165 men of letters of the "Literary Men's Council for Realization of Freedom" for having decided not to contribute to the newspaper and journal now published by the office of "Tonga Ilbo", and another thanks to some 30 extra-announcers for having refused to make appearance for the "Radio Tonga", as a token of solidarity with their struggle. And the statement stressed that they would continue with the unflinching fight till their demands are met, so as to live up to the expectation of the people who are giving moral and material aid to them.

Over 300 students of the Agricultural College under the Seoul University and the students of the Foreign Languages College bitterly condemned the Pak Jung Hi clique for their press gag and issued a statement demanding the resumption of office of the unreasonably fired journalists.

THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA—FIRST

A Splendid Fruition of the Immortal Juche Idea

On the First Anniversary of the Complete Abolition of Taxation

From April 1 last year, taxation, a legacy of the old society, was totally abolished in our country.

This owes entirely to the wise guidance of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of our Party and our people, and represents a brilliant embodiment of his immortal Juche idea.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"Attaching the greatest importance to people in all matters and serving them—this is precisely the requirement of the Juche idea." ("On Some Problems of Our Party's Juche Idea and the Government of the Republic's Internal and External Policies", Eng. ed., p. 12.)

Way back in the days of the anti-Japanese armed struggle the great leader who always values people with great affection and spares nothing for them gave serious consideration to the misfortunes and hardships of our people who had been ill-clad and hunger-stricken because of the ruthless exploitation and heavy burden of taxation under Japanese imperialist rule, made out a revolutionary tax programme and led our people straight to its realization.

According to this Juche-based tax programme he liquidated the predatory, colonial taxation of Japanese imperialism soon after the country's liberation and established a popular system of taxation. He correctly determined the character and role of taxation in each stage of the revolutionary development and illuminated the most correct and unique way to the solution of the tax problem particularly under socialism.

With the economic development of the country he systematically lightened the tax burden on the population. When the socialist system was set up, the economic power of the country strengthened and the fund for the socialist construction guaranteed by state accumulation, he set forth a great programme for the final abolition of taxation.

Basing himself on the Juche idea, the great leader unrolled a magnificent blueprint and indicated specific ways for the building of communist society in which the entire working people freed from all shackles would really enjoy an independent and creative life as the master of the nature and society. And, with every condition brought to maturity, he actively took bold and constructive measures for hastening the complete victory of socialism and the new spring of communism, thus materializing the communist policy for the complete abolition of taxation earlier than others.

The complete liquidation of the tax system is a proud victory displaying the superiority of the socialist system and its invincible vitality in our country where the great Juche idea of the leader has been embodied.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"Our socialist system is the best social system under which the working masses are masters of everything and everything in society serves the working masses." ("Let Us Further Strengthen the Socialist System of Our Country", Eng. ed., p. 25.)

Ours is the most excellent social system which embodies in itself the essential requirement of the Juche idea that everything should be considered with the greatest importance attached to popular masses, the master of the revolution and construction, and everything be put in the service of their interests.

Therefore, in our country the personal dignity and the rights of the working masses who have become the master of state power and means of production are most respected and their material and cultural well-being fully guaranteed.

The working people are given distribution according to the quantity and quality of work done. Not only this. Thanks to the great benefits of the state they are fully provided with the basic living conditions from food, clothing and housing to their children's education and the medical treatment as well as working conditions and the rest.

Such benefits of the state are contributing to evenly enhancing the people's living and making them enjoy a happy life without any worry.

Today our state ensures the fund for the revolution and construction with the income from the socialist economy and bears the responsibility for the people's living, diverting enormous state fund to its improvement.

Nor is this all. The exploiting classes were liquidated long ago and the entire working people are equally well off, with no big difference in their living standards.

So it became unnecessary for our state to maintain the inhabitants' tax as a supplementary means of meeting the financial demands of the state and public and the taxation as a means of evenly augmenting the income of the population.

Further, viewed from the socio-economic aspects and the politico-ideological aspects there was no ground for our state to keep the taxation any more.

Our working people armed with the Juche idea regard state affairs as their own and participate in the state administration, conscious of the fact that they are the masters of the country. With high revolutionary determination and voluntary enthusiasm they are fulfilling the sacred tasks they assumed for the socialist homeland.

The total abolition of the taxation convincingly demonstrates the might of our socialist independent national economy, a brilliant embodiment of the great Juche idea.

Our Juche-based industry has become an independent, modern industry developed in a diversified way, equipped with up-to-date techniques and having its own powerful raw material bases. And our rural economy has grown into an advanced socialist agriculture; in our countryside irrigation and electrification are completed and farming is done with the help of machines and chemicals.

Thanks to its solid independent foundation our economy continues to develop at a high rate, not affected by any spectre of the economic convulsions now sweeping across the world.

Thanks to this powerful independent national economy and the firm financial basis we laid relying on it, our country could launch a vigorous struggle for the huge socialist construction, direct great efforts to the measures for social and cultural welfare, make the national defence power as strong as an iron wall and even take great popular measures last year, such as drastic reduction of the prices of manufactured goods and total abolition of taxation.

The complete abolition of taxation in our country is, indeed, a great event that acquires an enormous social and political significance in the building of socialism and communism and in the progress of mankind.

It enabled our people to become a people who are proud of the first tax-free country in the world and enjoy a still more independent, creative life.

The total abolition of taxation in our country was a historical event declaring an end to the tax system which, together with class societies, had existed for thousands of years as a means of squeezing the popular masses. Particularly, it serves as a thunderbolt-like declaration shattering all the vicious machinations of the imperialists and reactionaries who seek to slander the socialist system, while shutting their eyes to the miserable plight of millions of toiling people who are afflicted with anxiety about payment of miscellaneous taxes, unemployment, high price and difficult life—all that caused by the capitalist system. It inspires the exploited and oppressed people including those of south Korea with hope and confidence, who are struggling to build a new society where there is neither exploitation and oppression nor taxation.

Moreover, this popular policy of the Government of our Republic on the complete abolition of the tax system made a great contribution to defending the honour and dignity of the socialist system and to increasing its influence and attraction.

The leader's original idea on the abolition of taxation and its brilliant materialization are of great significance also in the development of the revolutionary theories of the working class.

The leader worked out a scientific solution for all problems ranging from creation of the prerequisite for abolition of the tax system by the state of the working class to definition of its order and method. Thus he himself set an example by totally abolishing taxation in our country.

He provided a theoretical and practical weapon with which to completely abolish the tax system even under the circumstances that the state and the commodity-money relations exist. This put an end to the existing theories and conception—in general it had been considered to be difficult to abolish taxation as long as a state exists. As a result, mankind has been told the straight way to a society free from taxation.

The complete abolition of taxation—this is, indeed, a great victory of the immortal Juche idea fathered by the great revolutionary leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and a brilliant fruition of the lofty communist virtue of the fatherly leader who wants to provide our people with a richer and more cultured life, an independent, creative life.

People's Living Gets Better under the Tender Care of the Leader

Our people are now living the happiest and most cultured life ever in their history of thousands of years in this land of morning calm, Korea, a country well known for its rich mineral resources.

Today our people freed from exploitation and oppression once and for all are leading an independent and creative life without worries about the questions of food, clothing and housing and are enjoying such great benefits granted by the state as free education, free medical assistance, paid leave and recuperation at sanatoria and holiday-making at rest homes at state expense and social insurance.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung has taught:

"Our Party's activities are governed by the supreme principle of systematic promotion of the welfare of the people. After all, our struggle to build socialism and communism is aimed at bringing a more abundant life to all people and making them equally well-off."

The fatherly leader laid it down as the supreme principle of the activities of our Party and the Government of the Republic to systematically promote the welfare of the people and has invariably shown constant care for the steady and even enhancement of the living standard of our people.

The national income, the source of the people's living, is rapidly increasing in our country on the basis of the fast growth of production and it is most rationally distributed to raise the real income of the working people.

Under the solicitude of the fatherly leader, the wages of the workers and office employees are steadily rising. Since the war, wages have been raised on seven occasions. They jumped by 31.5 per cent on an average at a bound in 1970.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung showed a great solicitude for the workers, technicians and office employees throughout the country last year by granting a year-end special bonus equal to their monthly wages.

Our working people enjoy a large amount of additional benefits from the state besides the socialist distribution according to the quality and quantity of labour.

The state supplies sufficient food at a price next to nothing to the workers and office employees and their families and issues clothes to the children and students for different seasons.

The state also provides the working people with excellent houses.

The additional benefits granted to our working people by the state through the use of houses reach 600 to 700 won a year per household.

The prices of the mass consumption goods are steadily cut, while the wages of our working people are systematically raised.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung saw to it that the prices of mass consumption goods were set far lower in fixing the prices of commodities so as to further increase the real income of the working people.

The prices of major consumer goods have been reduced on 15 occasions since the war. In the recent years, the prices of eggs, sugar and shoes and many other daily necessities have been lowered in succession. Last year witnessed an average cut of 30 per cent in prices of fabrics, knitwear, shoes, daily necessities and other manufactured goods.

Our people have been freed from tax levies for good with the complete abolition of the taxation, a legacy of old society, as from April 1 last year. The popular policy under which the prices of manufactured goods were cut and the taxes were completely abolished brought our working people an additional benefit of 28 won on a monthly average per household last year.

Thanks to the wise leadership of the great leader and his profound solicitude, great successes have been made in narrowing down the differences in the living standards of the workers and peasants and the distinctions in living conditions of the urban and rural population.

The agricultural tax in kind was completely abolished between 1964 and 1966 in our country.

As agricultural production grows, the income in kind and cash of the peasants is growing still further.

The average grain distribution per household of the cooperative farmers rose to 141.3 per cent last year as against 1973, taking the country as a whole.

Today the overall living standard of our peasants has surpassed by far that of the well-to-do middle peasants of the past.

The living conditions of the rural population have also been markedly improved.

The peasants live a happy life in modern houses built by the state, not paying the rent.

Last year alone the state built houses for more than 100,000 peasant families.

With the fast introduction of bus and water services and telecasting network into the countryside, the peasants are leading a life as cultured as that of the urban dwellers.

Good is the life of the working people today under the most superior socialist system established by the fatherly leader. But it will be still better tomorrow.

An Chang Su

The counter stacked with high-quality goods draws an increasing number of customers (At the Pyongyang Department Store)

Most Ideal Reality of Socialism and Communism in Bloom in Korea

The cherished desire of mankind for tax-free society came true in Korea one year ago with the complete abolition of taxation.

This startling and historic event which liquidated the survivals of the feudal society and capitalist society and demonstrated the greatness of the communist policy made the world people clearly see that the most ideal human society is being built in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung has taught:

"That a communist society can be quickly built does not mean that we can build it at once. As conditions are created, we must implement communist policies gradually, one by one. If we carry out communist policies one by one, without putting off till tomorrow whatever is feasible today, a communist society will be built completely in the end."

The abolition of taxation is one more brilliant embodiment of the communist policies advanced by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, the genius of revolution, the great sun of the nation and a legendary hero.

From remote ages people yearned for a society where they could all work and live in comfort. But the ancients thought that there were only exploitation and oppression, speculation and jealousy, poverty and sorrow in this world; they did not know that they could remove such evils of society and build a society where all would live in happiness. So, they gave an ear to Christian or Buddhist doctrine which said that they could enjoy happiness only if they entered the "Kingdom of Heaven" or "paradise" after death.

But such a "Kingdom of Heaven" or "paradise" is nowhere to be found.

Only under the most superior socialist system of our country where men are considered most valuable in the world and everything in society serves them, what humanity had yearned only in "dreams" for a long time is being realized.

The complete abolition of taxation, along with the abolition of the agricultural tax-in-kind and the enforcement of free education and free medical service, was an epoch-making step which clearly showed that the paradise of socialism and communism is being turned into reality in human history.

A university teacher of Japan, deeply impressed by the historic step of the abolition of taxation, said:

"In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, all the successes made in the development of the productive forces serve the people. This is ideal, indeed. The most ideal reality of socialism is in bloom in the DPRK. I can say that there a communist society is coming in sight."

The Chairman of the National Federation of Traders and Industrialists Associations of Japan had this to say:

"A 'tax-free country' is the ideal and hope of humanity.

"The DPRK has completely translated this ideal, this hope into reality. It is quite natural that the DPRK is called a 'model country of socialism'."

The most ideal human society which is being brought into beautiful blossom in our country strikingly shows the correctness of the Juche idea founded by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and its great vitality.

Holding high the revolutionary banner of the Juche idea, the respected and beloved leader has confidently led the revolution and construction along the highway of victory under the complicated circumstances where the imperialists were intensifying as never before the ideological offensive against communism and the opportunist trends came into being in the international communist movement and created obstacles in the way of the development of the revolutionary movement, and laid a Juche-based, powerful independent economic foundation.

Once some socialist countries failed in farming. Seeing this, the imperialists and world reactionaries slandered the socialist system, saying that it was due to the agricultural cooperativization and it was impossible to solve the agricultural question in socialist society.

At that time the great leader made public the theses on the rural question and developed the rural economy at a fast tempo to reap bumper crops year after year, and thus fully demonstrated the superiority of the socialist rural economy to the whole world and smashed the reactionary ideological offensive of the imperialists to pieces.

The great leader shattered the nonsensical talk that it is impossible to develop the socialist economy uninterruptedly at high rate, with the new theory of socialist economy and practical experiences of our country.

Indeed, the Chollima movement of our working class, the great revolutionary upsurge in our socialist economic construction and the whole course of the development of our national economy clearly prove that the Juche idea founded by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung is the most correct guiding idea for the building of socialism and communism.

The world revolutionary people highly speak of the historic step taken to completely abolish taxation at a time when the imperialists were becoming more vicious in slandering socialism and the economic crisis was growing worse on a world-wide scale: They say that it was "a brilliant victory of the great Juche idea" and "a demonstration of the superiority of the socialist system".

History proves this great truth more clearly as the years go by.

Today the capitalist world is faced with an economic crisis worst in history. But, our country, not affected in the least by the economic upheaval in the capitalist world, reaped a bumper crop unprecedented in the world agricultural history and won a great victory in agriculture. In the industrial production, it surpassed the production level for 1976 envisaged in the Six-Year Plan during the "70-day battle" towards the end of last year and adopted such a popular policy as paying a year-end special bonus to the workers, technicians and office employees to give great joy to them.

Indeed, the words that our country is a "model country of socialism" and "a country where the ideal reality of communism is in bloom" are a high praise to the "fatherland of Juche" which shows with a practical example how to build the paradise of socialism and communism and how to enforce the communist policies.

Under the radiant rays of the Juche idea founded by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, our country is carrying out communist policies one by one to turn the supreme ideal of mankind into reality, adding lustre to the honour of being the vanguard in the era of Juche.

Li Man Song

Meeting Held to Establish Friendly Relations between Pyongyang and Lome

Friendly relations have been established between Pyongyang, the capital of revolution, and Lome, the capital of the Republic of Togo.

This reflects the desire of the Korean and Togolese peoples to march forward shoulder to shoulder under the banner of anti-imperialism and independence and marks another milestone in further developing the friendly relations between the two countries.

A meeting was held on March 26 at the Chollima House of Culture in Pyongyang to establish the friendly relations between Pyongyang and Lome. A portrait of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and a portrait of His Excellency Gnassingbe Eyadema, President of the Republic of Togo, were placed with due respect on the platform.

The meeting was attended by Kang Hui Won, Chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administrative Committee; Kim Si Hak, Chairman of the Korea-Togo Friendship Association; and personages concerned and working people in Pyongyang.

It was addressed by Vice-Chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administrative Committee Wang Gyong Hak, who said:

The relations of friendship and cooperation between Korea and Togo have been strengthened and developed to a new, higher stage since the visit of President Gnassingbe Eyadema to Korea in September last year at the invitation of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

The Togolese government and people highly estimated the achievements made by the Korean people in the revolution and construction under the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and render full support and encouragement to the Korean people in their just struggle to chase the US imperialist aggressor troops out of south Korea and achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The Pyongyang citizens and the Korean people are sincerely rejoiced over the achievements made by the Lome citizens and the Togolese people following the line of anti-imperialism and independence under the leadership of President Gnassingbe Eyadema, their outstanding leader and a close friend of the Korean people, and extend full support and firm solidarity for their just struggle.

The Korean people are very happy to have such close friend as the Togolese people on the African continent.

The establishment of fraternal relations of friendship between Pyongyang and Lome will greatly help towards strengthening and developing the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

After the meeting the attendants saw a documentary film on the visit of His Excellency Gnassingbe Eyadema, President of the Republic of Togo, to Korea.

An emergency meeting of the Central Committee of All People's Congress of Sierra Leone which was held on March 20 decided not to allow a south Korean puppet embassy to be opened in Sierra Leone, according to a report from Freetown.

At the emergency meeting President Siaka Probyn Stevens said that the Sierra Leonean government already established diplomatic relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and has developed the relations and stressed that Sierra Leone supported the reunification of Korea and one Korea, which was a policy of All People's Congress.

He declared that if Sierra Leone allowed the opening of a south Korean "mission", it would mean recognizing "two Koreas". This is contradictory to the policy of Sierra Leone which supports Korea's reunification, he added.

The decision of Sierra Leone not to allow the establishment of a south Korean puppet embassy proves once again clearly the correctness of the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic for independent, peaceful reunification, a policy set forth by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung. It is an expression of the strong support and solidarity of the Sierra Leonean people for our people in the struggle for national reunification. At the same time, it is another heavy blow to the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique in south Korea.

The Korean people warmly welcome the recent drastic step taken by Sierra Leone.

As is known, the Pak Jung Hi gang, a faithful dual lackey of the US and Japanese aggressors, are traitors who sold out south Korea to their masters; fascist hangmen who are harshly suppressing the south Korean people; split-seekers who are opposing the country's reunification and working for its perpetual division; and warmaniacs who are frantically scheming to unleash a new war in Korea.

They are the third world people's heinous enemy who, in collusion with the US imperialists and their henchmen such as Israeli expansionists and South African racist clique, are unhesitatingly committing all kinds of foul criminal acts against all the people who are fighting for sovereignty, independence and social progress.

Because of all their such crimes, the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique are utterly isolated and rebuffed at home and abroad and reduced to the status of an international orphan.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung taught:

"The peoples of the third world are strongly supporting and encouraging our people's revolutionary cause."

Today it is an international trend that the world people give strong support to the Korean people in their struggle for the independent, peaceful reunification of the country and repudiate the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique who seek to perpetuate the country's division, depending on outside forces.

This is clearly shown by the fact that the Togolese government broke off the diplomatic relations with south Korea and banished the south Korean puppet embassy in September last year and that recently a series of international meetings refused the participation of the south Korean puppets, as unanimously demanded by the third world countries.

The decision taken by Sierra Leone this time is an embodiment of her anti-imperialist, independent policy and is a just measure which conforms with the trend of our time in which the oppressed people are taking an independent path, after throwing off the yoke of imperialism, and particularly with the desire and interests of the third world people.

We Korean people express our deep thanks to the Sierra Leonean government and people for their active support and encouragement to our struggle for the independent reunification of the country.

On this occasion, we sincerely wish the Sierra Leonean people greater successes in their struggle against imperialism and colonialism and for the building of a new life.

Li Jip

Drastic Measure of Sierra Leone against Pak Jung Hi Puppet Clique

TAX-FREE COUNTRY AND BLESSED LAND FOR THE PEOPLE

"The Event That Can Take Place Only in Korea Advancing under the Banner of the Juche Idea"

Foreigners' Reaction to Abolition of Taxation in Korea

Complete abolition of taxation in our country has evoked a great response among public circles and revolutionary peoples of the world. They are speaking about this historical event with these impressive words, "brilliant victory of the great Juche idea" and "demonstration of the superiority of the socialist system". They recognize that it is the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung who brought about this event, and therefore they deeply respect and adore him.

Here are some of their comments:

Daily "Arubaita Ashara October" of Democratic Yemen pointed out:

"Complete abolition of taxation system in Korea signifies that the Korean people have totally removed all the vestiges of the former feudal and capitalist societies. This is the brilliant embodiment of the great Juche idea."

Noting that the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung has wisely steered the people toward the struggle from the days of anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle to this day to establish a popular system of taxation and abolish taxation, Lebanese daily "Al Anwar" emphasized:

"Total abolition of taxation in Korea proves the brilliant victory of the great Juche idea and powerfully testifies to the superiority of the socialist system in Korea that demonstrates the might of an independent national economy through the realization of the requirements of the Juche idea."

A Canadian university professor said:

"The recent measure to abolish taxation is an eloquent testimony to the might and creativity of the socialist economy in Korea and it also means the great victory of the far-reaching concept of President Kim Il Sung to realize communist society by leading people in continuous revolution."

A Burmese technician remarked:

"Complete abolition of taxation and drastic cut of commodity prices in Korea clearly show the excellence of the socialist system.

"President Kim Il Sung who established so excellent a social system is a great man, indeed. I respect him from the bottom of my heart."

A school teacher of the Netherlands made the following remarks:

"Complete abolition of taxation in Korea is a source of boundless strength and courage to the people aspiring to socialism.

"Informed of this news I reaffirmed my conviction that Korea is the very country that lights the pathway for humanity to follow.

"The recent step was taken at a time when an economic convulsion was increasingly widespread all over the world. This convincingly demonstrates the superiority of socialism.

"All these are a glaring proof of the vitality of the Juche idea of President Kim Il Sung and the correctness of policies of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

"The greater success in socialist construction in Korea will further inspire the struggle of the oppressed people aspiring to socialism."

Chairman of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry said:

"Complete abolition of taxation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a stirring, historical event. This event can take place only in Korea advancing under the banner of the Juche idea."

The "stirring, historical event" gives firm confidence and great encouragement to those who wish to live in a society free from the burden of taxation.

Noted personages of various political parties, social organizations, trade unions, academic circles in Japan put out an appeal to their people, calling for marking April 1, the day when taxation was abolished in Korea, as the "day of joint national action to completely abolish taxation"; they solemnly resolved to fight for the realization of this cause. The Fourth National Forum on the Juche Idea held in Japan adopted unanimously an "appeal to the Japanese people" in connection with the designation of "April 1 as the day of fighting against taxation".

The appeal points out:

"The Democratic People's Republic of Korea became a tax-free country from April 1, 1974. The birth of a tax-free country is the first of its kind in the history of mankind. This means that the remote dream of mankind has now become a reality."

The appeal called for marking April 1 as the day of abolishing taxation and launching a vigorous war on the exploiter class imposing onerous taxes on the working class.

The Fourth Congress of the Asian Students' Association also adopted an appeal, calling for marking "April 1 as the day of joint struggle against taxation in Asia and the rest of the world". The appeal noted that "the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which abolished taxation first by splendidly incorporating the great Juche idea is a model country greatly encouraging the peoples of the third world," and proposed that the member organizations should mark April 1 every year as the day of joint struggle to abolish taxation in Asia and the world.

How Taxes Were Abolished in Our Country

The Korean people have now become the genuine, dignified masters of their country and society and are enjoying a happy life to their hearts' content, completely free from tax burden. In this the highest credit is due to the wise guidance of the great, respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, the most outstanding leader one can ever find in the annals of thousands of years.

It was already in the period of his early years of revolutionary activities that the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung thrashed out a far-sighted plan to abolish taxes. In the whole course of his guidance in the revolution and construction he saw that taxes were reduced systematically. The end result was that the historical task of finally abolishing the system of taxation itself was fulfilled for the first time in the world.

The great leader who worked out a revolutionary programme conceived to abolish taxes as far back as the years of the anti-Japanese armed struggle, carried out after liberation the democratic reforms without a loss of time, the agrarian reform, nationalization of industries and tax reform included.

The system of predatory colonial taxation established by Japanese imperialism thus gave way to a system of truly popular democratic taxation represented by a system of single agricultural tax in kind and a progressive income-tax system.

The peasants, relieved of the burden of high feudalistic farm rent and all the exacting taxes and levies for good, could freely dispose of their crop harvests after delivering only 25 per cent of them to the state as the tax in kind.

The introduction of a progressive income-tax system extricated the workers and other sections of the population from the heavy burden of taxes imposed by Japanese imperialism and enabled them to pay impartial taxes according to their incomes.

Tax revenue was used for the development of the country where the masters are the working people and spent on the improvement of their living standards through various state policies.

The new system of taxation prevented the growth of the negative aspect of the capitalist trade and manufacture, induced the entrepreneurs, traders and manufacturers to do their bits for the building of the country together with other segments of the people and, furthermore, played an important role in remoulding them into the socialist working people.

The leader made certain that the tax burden on the people was lightened step by step as the industry developed and the foundation of an independent national economy grew solid.

Under his wise guidance our Party and government lowered the agricultural tax in kind and income tax on a number of occasions. Even in the difficult days of the Fatherland Liberation War, steps were taken to cut taxes drastically.

The income tax of the factory and office workers was reduced by 30 per cent in 1955 after the war. Besides, the tax burden on the handicraftsmen, entrepreneurs and traders was lightened to a large extent and the rate of agricultural tax in kind—25 per cent—was cut down to 20.1 per cent on an average and dropped to 8.4 per cent from 1959 on.

Tax revenue covered 54.5 per cent of total state budgetary revenue in 1946. But the figure decreased to 24.5 per cent in 1949 and to 8.8 per cent in 1956.

The completion of the socialist transformation of production relations and the laying out of solid foundations for the socialist industrialization tended to boost the accumulation of state-run economy, able to allot the necessary funds to economic and cultural construction.

In 1960 the share of the socialist economy amounted to 97.9 per cent in the state budgetary revenue. This meant that tax revenue from the population now became negligible.

Already in those days the great revolutionary leader Comrade Kim Il Sung declared:

"We will be in a position in these very days to abolish taxes completely now that necessary funds for economic and cultural construction can come entirely from state accumulation."

As conditions were ripe, the leader, in accordance with his programme for tax abolition, took a measure to abolish the agricultural tax in kind at first.

This tax was completely abolished during the three years from 1964 to 1966.

It helped toward further strengthening of the worker-peasant alliance, well-balanced development of industry and agriculture and narrowing down of the distinctions between town and country to a considerable extent.

All that now remained unabolished was income tax and negligible local self-governing tax.

Their share accounted for no more than 2 per cent of the state budgetary revenue.

The Third Session of the Fifth Supreme People's Assembly declared to the whole world that the taxation system would be abolished completely as from April 1, 1974 in accordance with the policy advanced by the leader.

Generally speaking, complete abolition of the taxation system was regarded as a task to be fulfilled in the stage of the building of communism. But this task was completed in the stage of socialist construction in our country.

It is worthwhile mentioning that in our country taxes were totally abolished with no strings attached. This means that the working people have come to get another benefit from the state.

And tax abolition coincided with the step to drastically cut the prices of manufactured goods.

As the total tax abolition was effected under the situation where the state had already done away with the agricultural tax in kind, it led to increase in the real incomes of factory and office workers.

This might affect the balance between factory and office workers and farmers in the real incomes.

From this the state took a step to cut the prices of manufactured goods drastically in order to keep their real incomes well balanced while increasing them alike.

Indeed, complete abolition of taxes signified a great victory for the immortal Juche idea originated by the great revolutionary leader Comrade Kim Il Sung. At the same time it was a splendid fruition of the tender affection, solicitude and lofty communist virtues of the leader who is always concerned about how to enrich our people's life and make it cultured still more.

Pak Ju Sol

With Deep Emotion

I turned over a sheet of the calendar.

April 1!

The moment I felt a lump in my throat.

(Ah, the day when taxation was abolished!)

A year ago today, taxation was totally abolished in our country and this news deeply stirred up the hearts of all and set the whole world in a whirl of excitement.

It was the day on which mankind's cherished dream of living in a tax-free world came to be translated into reality and which will be inscribed in golden letters in human history. All people will never forget that day, not to speak of those like me who suffered much from taxation, bathed in tears of blood, and those who are still plagued by it.

Let me tell you a brief story of how I had been hard up in Japan, an alien land.

I went there to seek a livelihood.

At that time I had to pay "income tax" even for a meagre sum of money that fell into my hands. To make matters worse, I was weighed down by various other taxes—"citizen tax", "house tax" and what not. Some 20 years after my life began in the foreign land, I managed to buy a machine for making vinyl chloride raincoats. For this my colleagues helped me and I borrowed money. The machine was the only means of living for my family.

In the hope that our life would soon be a little better, I got to work. But to my surprise, tens of thousands of yen of tax was levied upon me for my "big business". Later I learned that even the taxes to be paid by the rich and privileged were imposed on the poor like us. What an accursed society it was!

We had no way to pay all the taxes. The amount was so excessive that we could hardly pay it with anything. I was still in debt. I was much worried. But nowhere could I go to plead my sorry situation.

When the time for tax payment expired, bailiffs came to my home and pasted distraint papers on all our negligible goods and chattels including my old trunk. The machine was also attached.

The seizure of our property greatly annoyed me.

(How can we get along from now in this callous land of Japan?)

Things were too dismal. My heart ached as if shedding tears of blood.

On the day when I brought with me the purchased machine, a smile spread over the face of my wife for the first time, the face which was always clouded with worries. But now, the reality was merciless and she was standing aghast.

To us, my wife and I, it seemed we could manage to feed and clothe our children somehow or other, even though we could not afford to send them to school.

To get the machine, our little ones, too, had to earn odd pence, pinched with hunger. At this thought a lamentation overtook me.

I struck my breast with my clenched fists.

(Really, couldn't we spend a day without worries about how to pay taxes. Should there be taxes in this world?...)

No. We can be free from taxes. Taxation was completely abolished in the land where I am now living, that is, in the socialist homeland where we are now living.

Our fatherly leader who values the people most and finds joy in their happiness saw that taxation, a legacy of the old society, was totally abolished in our country.

The respected and beloved leader Marshal Kim Il Sung taught:

"The superiority of our socialist system also lies in the fact that the State takes the full responsibility for the material and cultural well-being of the workers, peasants and other working people."

The state provides the people with all conditions for food, clothing and housing. Children study free of charge at state expense. And people receive free medical care even when they get seriously ill.

Our socialist system established by the fatherly leader is blissful, indeed.

I am now living in a fine, modern flat allotted by the state. It is a three-room flat with hot-water heated floors. But house rent is negligible. Rice is supplied at the price next to nil. My flat is well appointed and we have a TV set, an electric cooking pot, etc.

Two of my sons have already graduated from institutions of higher learning and are now working as a doctor and an engineer.

The third one is now a student of the Kim Chaek Polytechnic Institute.

Our life becomes abundant from day to day and at home merry laughter is raised all the time.

We enjoy immense happiness. But the leader showed one more profound solicitude for us. He took a measure to abolish even the income tax which was too small to speak of. Nobody on earth are so blessed as our people.

"Listen! Your 60th birthday is close at hand. But you look young for your age," I said to my wife.

Then came my son's voice: "Father, you too!"

"Is it true? Ha, ha, ha... So, however hard we work, we don't feel tired ...Let's do our work well to repay the great favour of the leader."

This is how a year ago today my family members chatted with each other, all filled with happy feelings.

I am now 60 years old. But as days go by I feel myself as hale and hearty as the young folk.

As we pledged that day, we will hold the great leader in high esteem forever, remain loyal to him generation after generation and firmly defend our grateful socialist system.

Kim Jik Hong,
Assistant Manager,
Chollima Vinyl Chloride Workshop,
Pyongyang General Daily Necessities Factory

Kim Jik Hong's family were subjected to all sorts of national humiliation and exacting taxes and levies in Japan. But today they enjoy an immensely happy life in the warm embrace of the great leader
Photo by Chong Ui Ryol

Per-Capita National Income Surpasses 1,000 Dollars in Our Country

The per-capita national income in the northern half of the Republic surpasses 1,000 dollars.

This means that the northern half of the Republic ranks among the developed countries in terms of national income.

This was declared by Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great revolutionary leader, in his speech at the meeting of active industrial workers held recently.

An independent and Juche-based powerful economic foundation has been laid in our country under the wise guidance of the respected and beloved leader. It is thanks to this economic foundation that the nation's production is growing constantly at a high rate and, on this basis, the national income is on systematic and rapid rise.

The national income in 1970, the last year of the Seven-Year Plan, stood 9.4 times the figure of 1946, the year after liberation.

In the northern half of the Republic, a bright prospect is open for increasing the national income on a larger scale by giving fullest play to the superiority of the socialist system under the wise guidance of the fatherly leader.

The national income will show a remarkable increase particularly when the ten-major perspective targets of socialist economic construction are hit.

The per-employee output value is also rising considerably through a vigorous technical revolution. During the last "70-day battle" it reached 9,844 *won*, which was above the level envisaged in the Six-Year Plan.

A drive is afoot now to augment the per-employee output value to more than 10,000 *won*.

The whole national income of our country goes to the working people. It is most effectively utilized to raise the material and cultural standards of the working people, expand production and lay up necessary reserves in compliance with the demand of the socialist basic economic law.

But, in south Korea, competition and anarchy of production prevail, economic crisis comes periodically, and chronic unemployment persists, the jobless people steadily increasing, and huge labour force is wasted in the military and bureaucratic tools and other nonproductive domains, reducing the national income to a negligible figure under the anti-popular policy of the US imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique.

The per-capita national income in south Korea is on a low level in the world.

Kim Gong U

South Korean Puppets Resort to Tax Extortion

It is common knowledge that in the exploiter society the important source of the budgetary revenue is the taxes derived from the people. But brutal extortion by the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique of south Korea can scarcely be found elsewhere in the world.

These clique who take no notice of the people's lives and are only engrossed in building their happiness at the expense of people are scheming to cover 88 per cent of this year's budgetary revenue with taxes to be derived from the people.

This means that everyone is obliged to pay 33,000 *won* and a five-member family unit 165,000 *won*.

The average monthly wages of the workers in the manufacturing industry stand at some 10,000 *won*. From this you can clearly see how brutal is the traitor Pak Jung Hi clique's act of plundering the people.

Not satisfied with their act of bleeding the people white, they carry out the revisions of taxation law twice or thrice every year to broaden the variety of taxes and raise them.

Some time ago, a "campaign for investigating nation's properties" was inaugurated, aiming at collecting a large tax from every family unit. In this campaign over 60,000 tax-collectors were mobilized. To get more prize these tax-hunting rascals showed extraordinary enthusiasm in tapping the new source of taxes. In this course such a new term as "wrist watch tax" was coined.

History knows that an European emperor employed such arrant, harsh measure as imposing taxes on the hairs of the nostril. The very "wrist watch tax" invented by the Pak Jung Hi traitors, the scum of humanity, will write another defiled page in the history of taxation.

It was officially announced that the variety of taxes in south Korea now reaches more than 100, including: income taxes, land taxes, business taxes, house taxes, motor vehicle levies, commodity taxes, travelling taxes, admission taxes, entertainment taxes, excises on liquor, levies on water, telephone taxes, ad taxes, livestock taxes, butchery taxes, marriage taxes, death-registration taxes, inheritance taxes. If local taxes of various types are added, it amounts to several hundreds.

There are even residents taxes, a rehash of the poll taxes flourished in the feudalistic ages. Poll taxes were applied only to those with earning capacity. But residents taxes are applicable to everyone who lives in each quarter, regardless of his profession and ability to earn livelihood.

It is small wonder that a south Korean publication wrote:

"A ragged quilt and ten or more tableware scattered around—these are all that belong to a dugout. Even a thief who got into the house is not inclined to steal them. But taxes of 1,000 *won* under the name of residents taxes are levied on this house every month!"

The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique torment the people by various methods of extortion like this. But the story is different in regard to comprador capitalists and reactionary bureaucrats they rely on. They are not only exempted from some taxes but granted various privileges. Last year the total sum of exemption ran into as much as 230,000 million *won*.

Thus, the principles of "the rich get richer and the poor poorer" are becoming more widespread.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"The people have been totally impoverished. Nevertheless, south Korea's rulers are exacting increasing taxes from the working people to cover their huge military expenditures."

As the leader said, over 80 per cent of the budgetary revenue coming from taxes levied from the population are allotted to direct military expenditure and expenses for the expansion and upkeep of the puppet police and fascist ruling machines.

This year they are in a frenzy to expand the munitions industry and increase military expenditure, raving that "we are not in a semi-wartime state but in a state of war at present". To this end they try to intensify tax extortion as never before.

The ever-increasing economic catastrophe and sky-rocketing prices of commodities, coupled with crushing taxation, condemn many people to unemployment and pauperism. No wonder tragedies occur one after another.

But the south Korean people do not want to remain mere onlookers to this tragic situation; they resolve to bravely fight against the traitors.

Kim Myong Uk

Cartoon by Son Chang Hak

Vicious US Imperialists Answer Our Proposal on Peace Agreement with Aggressive Moves

One year has elapsed since the Third Session of the Fifth Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea discussed the item "On the Creation of Prerequisites for the Removal of Tension in Korea and Promotion of the Country's Independent and Peaceful Reunification" and put forward a new, epochal proposal for concluding a peace agreement through direct negotiations with the United States.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"In our letter sent to US Congress in the name of the Supreme People's Assembly, we proposed talks on the question of concluding a peace agreement with the United States which, among other things, will stipulate that both sides shall not invade the other side and shall discontinue arms reinforcement and arms race, that the United States shall not meddle in Korea's internal affairs or obstruct its reunification and shall withdraw US troops occupying south Korea and that our country shall not be made a military base or operational base of any foreign country after the withdrawal of US troops."

This new proposal of the Government of the Republic for concluding a peace agreement through direct negotiations with the United States in order to create prerequisites for the removal of military confrontation between the north and the south and for the achievement of the country's independent and peaceful reunification, is the most fair and active step to put an end to the interference of foreign forces in our internal affairs and bring about a durable peace and achieve the peaceful reunification in Korea, on the basis of the proposition of the country's independent and peaceful reunification advanced by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

Under the circumstances that the south Korean puppets have no intention or ability to solve the problem of concluding a peace agreement already proposed by us, it is the most appropriate step to directly discuss this matter with the United States, the signatory to the Korean Armistice Agreement and the party that has real power, able to guarantee the peace agreement.

Therefore, our most reasonable and realistic proposal on creating prerequisites for the maintenance of peace and the settlement of the reunification question in Korea has received and is receiving full support and warm welcome from not only the entire Korean people but from the peoples of the socialist countries and the third world countries, and the progressive peoples all over the world.

But the United States authorities have not responded to our proposal up to now.

This proves that the US imperialists give no thought to peace and peaceful reunification in Korea and they are none other than the loathsome creature who answers our proposal on peace agreement with aggressive manoeuvres.

In fact, the United States, challenging our just proposal on creating prerequisites for peace and peaceful reunification in Korea, is aggravating tension there and stubbornly clinging to a "two-Korea" policy, while pushing forward preparations for a new war.

As was revealed recently, the US imperialists increased their aggressive forces in south Korea by 4,000 in the latter half of last year alone, contrary to their clamour for "reduction" of their armed forces. They bluntly stated that the south Korean puppet mercenary troops now attached to the units of the US imperialist aggressor army would be replaced by GIs and new combat units be brought in.

While reinforcing their aggressor forces in this way, the US imperialists took a step to integrate into one three commanding headquarters in south Korea—the "UN Command", the "Headquarters of the US Armed Forces" and the "8th US Army Headquarters"—in an attempt to increase their manoeuverability.

They are now shipping in south Korea a number of combat material and technical equipment and mass destruction weapons and turning the whole of south Korea into a military base.

And they are more frequently carrying out war exercises and military provocateur acts to attack us.

It was fully exposed that the recent piratical act against our peaceful fishing boats in the West Sea was conducted under the manipulation of the US imperialist aggressor army and even the US air force mobilized on the spot.

US imperialism is the virtual ruler in south Korea and the very ringleader who is impelling the south Korean puppets toward fascism, division and war adventure.

It encourages the Pak Jung Hi clique to intensify fascist suppression against the patriotic people and supplies them with enormous sum of military aid and weapons with the aim of igniting another war against our Republic.

This is not all. The US imperialists, regarding south Korea as their advance base for Asian aggression, continue to draw the Japanese militarists into south Korea and are hastening to consolidate and complete the "US-Japan-ROK joint chain of action", with the invariable purpose of using the Japanese militarists as shock troops.

All the moves eloquently prove that the US imperialists are the chieftain who disturbs peace in Korea and obstructs her peaceful reunification and jealously watches for a chance to unleash a war of aggression.

The prevention of war in Korea today is maintained entirely due to the just policy and patient efforts of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the country's peace and peaceful reunification.

The most shameful and crafty US imperialists have all along ridiculously twaddled about "protection" and "guarantee" to justify their occupation of south Korea and provocateur designs for a new war. And now they have the cheek to say that their occupation of south Korea is not for a "military aim" but for a "political aim" and withdrawal of the US troops will increase the "danger of a nuclear war".

There are no "military" reason or "political" reason for the US imperialists to remain in south Korea.

Withdrawal of the US imperialist aggression troops will not entail the danger of the conversion of south Korea and Japan into the nuclear bases. On the contrary, south Korea and Japan are turning into the nuclear bases because they are entrenched there.

The "protection", "guarantee", "nuclear danger" the US imperialists are uttering are a gangster-like logic to cover up their true colours as aggressors and justify their designs to prepare another war now stepped up in south Korea. At the same time it is aimed to hide their wicked intention to reject our just and realistic proposal on concluding a peace agreement.

With no amount of tricks, can the US imperialists conceal their nature as aggressors.

To preserve and consolidate peace in Korea and promote the cause of the country's reunification, the US imperialists must discontinue their interference in the internal affairs of Korea and withdraw their aggression forces from south Korea. This is a prerequisite to Korea's peace and peaceful reunification.

We demand strongly once again that the US imperialists accept our proposal on a peace agreement and show sincere attitude towards the discussion of problem and put an end to aggression against our country and interference in its internal affairs as early as possible and evacuate their aggression armed forces from south Korea, thus letting the Korean people themselves solve the reunification problem independently.

If the US imperialists doggedly reject our realistic peaceful proposal and continue to pursue the policies of aggression and war, occupying south Korea as ever, they will disclose all the more fully before the world's people their dirty nature as the most brazen-faced aggressor and warmaniac trampling underfoot the sovereignty of our people and hampering Korea's reunification and will eventually suffer an ignominious defeat.

US imperialists must pay serious attention to our just proposal and repeated warnings and act with discretion in conformity with the trend of the times.

Our people will never tolerate the US imperialists' manoeuvres of aggression and interference in Korea and surely accomplish independently the cause of national reunification, the greatest task of the nation, after chasing the US imperialist aggressors out of south Korea with the support and encouragement of the world's peace-loving people.

Commentator

DPRK Foreign Ministry Issues Statement Fully Supporting Struggle of South Vietnamese People

The Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued a statement on March 29 supporting the statement made public by the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam on March 21 in connection with the uprising of the people in different parts of South Viet Nam and the attack of the People's Liberation Armed Forces.

The statement says:

The People's Liberation Armed Forces and people of South Viet Nam are winning brilliant victories by giving counter-blows to the US imperialists and the South Vietnamese puppet clique. During some ten days from the beginning of March tens of thousands of the enemy troops were put out of action, thousands were taken prisoner and large quantities of weapon, ammunition and other war supplies were captured. The six provincial seats, and thirteen military regions and county seats and other districts were liberated from the enemy's rule.

The victory is of tremendous strategic significance and constitutes a heavy blow to the US imperialists and the South Vietnamese puppet clique who are viciously manoeuvring to continue with the "pacification" and the nibbling war and wipe out the liberated areas in violation of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam.

The DPRK Government and the Korean people warmly congratulate the fraternal South Vietnamese people and their armed forces on their victory in the sacred war of resistance against US aggression and for national salvation and fully support the just stand of the South Vietnamese people as clarified in the statement of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam.

The counter-blow dealt by the South Vietnamese people at the enemies is an exercise of their legitimate right to strictly observe the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam and solve the South Viet Nam issue at an early date; it is a just struggle against the imperialists' aggression and for national independence and sovereignty.

The DPRK Government and the Korean people, standing firm on the side of the fraternal South Vietnamese people fighting against the US imperialists, the common enemy, and their lackeys, will extend active support and encouragement to their just struggle till they win final victory.

The US imperialists must strictly observe the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam, put an immediate end to their military intervention in South Viet Nam and interference in its internal affairs, withdraw all US military personnel and let the South Vietnamese people settle the South Viet Nam issue by themselves.

If the US imperialist aggressors, failing to draw a lesson from the defeat they sustained in Indochina, persist in the manoeuvres of aggression and war, they will meet a heavier ignominious defeat.

The South Vietnamese people who enjoy the active support and encouragement of all the peace-loving people of the world will surely win final victory in their just cause to achieve peace and democracy, independence and national concord.

Fervent Aspiration of Central American Countries for Sovereignty

The Summit Conference of Central American Countries was successfully held in Panama recently.

The Summit Conference was a manifestation of the unanimous aspiration and determination of the countries and peoples in this region to defend national sovereignty and interests with united efforts against the imperialists' aggression and interference.

This clearly shows that the tide of independence is also surging high in Central America where the US imperialists had lorded it over as if it were their backyard and the Central American countries and peoples, the genuine masters of this region, are further strengthening unity and solidarity in the struggle against the imperialists' aggression and interference, domination and control and for defending their sacred sovereignty and interests.

The Summit Conference of Central American Countries is an encouragement to the Latin American people who are struggling to repulse all sorts of threat and pressure of the US imperialists, defend national sovereignty, natural resources and territorial waters and a great contribution to advancing their struggle. At the same time, the conference is a heavy blow to the US imperialists who are working hard to block the independent development of the Latin American countries and perpetuate their exploitation, plunder, domination and control in this region.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said in his message of greetings to the Summit Conference of Central American Countries:

"The Summit Conference of Central American Countries is of very great importance in strengthening the unity and cooperation of the Latin American countries fighting against the domination and control of imperialism and for defence of their common interests and rights."

The important success of the conference is that it made a great contribution to further strengthening the unity and cooperation, support and solidarity of the Latin American countries in the struggle against the domination and control of the US imperialists and for the common interests and rights. This is clearly shown by the "Panama Declaration" adopted at the conference.

Our people fully support the "Panama Declaration" adopted at the conference and the stand of the Central American countries clarified in the declaration and express firm militant solidarity with the Panamanian people and the Latin American people in the just struggle for retaking the Panama Canal.

The Korean people strongly demand that US imperialism return the Panama Canal to the Panamanian people, its true master, and withdraw at once from the Panama Canal Zone.

When the countries and peoples of Latin America firmly unite politically, closely cooperate economically and fight in concert with each other, they will undoubtedly be able to smash the imperialists' aggression and interference, domination and control and build a new, independent and prosperous Latin America.

Sure to emerge victorious is the just struggle of the Latin American peoples against the imperialists' domination and control, exploitation and plunder and for achieving independent development.

"Case of Minhakryon" Is a Total Fabrication

It is a long time since the truth of the "case of Minhakryon (the National Federation of Youth and Students for Democracy)" and the "case of the People's Revolutionary Party" was brought to light. But these days the Pak Jung Hi fascist villains in south Korea are obstinately manoeuvring to make the cases appear to be "true".

Some time ago traitor Pak Jung Hi blustered that the "case of Minhakryon" was a "case aimed at rebellion" and that if the public continue to stir up troubles about the case, the matter "would be dealt with according to law". The minister of justice of the puppet regime described the "People's Revolutionary Party" as a "treasonous organization" which was formed and active to "topple the government by force of arms" and "set up a communist regime" in accordance with the "directives given by the north". He then blabbed that "anyone who praises and encourages it will be punished severely".

On March 13 they committed such a fascist outrage as arresting again poet Kim Ji Ha on the charge of violation of the "anti-communist law", because in his memoir contributed to "Tonga Ilbo" he held that the "case of the PRP" was a concoction. He had been put under arrest allegedly for his involvement in the "case of Minhakryon" and let off when the farce "release of detainees" was staged.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung taught:

"The south Korean reactionaries hatched a clumsy plot and are making ado. But this is of no use. With no trick can the south Korean reactionaries cover up the truth or hold in check the revolutionary struggle of the people."

No matter what trick they may resort to, the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique cannot veil the truth of the "case of Minhakryon" and the "case of the PRP".

Originally, the "case of Minhakryon" is a groundless one which the Pak Jung Hi clique faked up in April last year to brutally suppress, under the pretext of "attempt at rebellion", the south Korean youth and students fighting for the democratization of south Korean society and national reunification.

In order to make this "case" sound plausible, the scoundrels nabbed two Japanese youths in Seoul and invented a cock-and-bull story that they came to Seoul after receiving "directives" from "secret agents" of Chongryon (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan) and the Japan Communist Party and "incited rebellion" among the south Korean youth and students and promised them to "introduce weapons from north Korea".

This poor drama fell flat from the outset.

The Central Committee of the Japan Communist Party made it clear that Hayakawa who the Pak Jung Hi clique claim received "directives" from the Japan Communist Party is not a Japan Communist Party member and has nothing to do with the JCP.

The Japanese Police Agency refuted the Pak Jung Hi puppets, pointing out that Kwak Dong Ui who is said to have given "directives" to Tachikawa, non-salaried reporter of the Japanese magazine "Shukan Gendai", is a man of south Korean line with the lawful denizenship of Japan and that the Japanese judicial authorities "do not conclude that he is a spy".

The Pak Jung Hi puppets could neither file a protest against it nor present data and ground to prove their assertion.

The vicious plot of the Pak Jung Hi clique was fully revealed even in the "detention house" and at the murderous public trial court.

Despite threat, blackmail and brutal torture, the two Japanese held in unison that they never received "directives" from Chongryon and the Japan Communist Party, still less "incited rebellion".

The south Korean youth and students who were arrested in connection with this "case" also made it clear that they, representing the will of the south Korean people, took part in peaceful demonstrations for the attainment of democracy and freedom in south Korea. And they stated that it was after they were arrested and cast into prison that they heard about "Kwak Dong Ui" who is accused of being a "secret agent" of Chongryon, about the "introduction of weapons from the north", about "violent revolution" and about "establishment of communist regime" and that they heard these words from the "investigators" for the first time.

As was disclosed by Mun Ho Chol, a student who was unjustly indicted for this "case", during the trial the puppet "public procurators" said to Li Chol and Ryu In Tae who were under illegal indictment: "I also know well that you are not communists. But if you admit, in the interest of the state, the content of your conversation with Japanese as mentioned in the petition of appeal, I will not ask about your crime." This clearly shows that this "case" is a sheer fake-up.

When their nefarious plot to link the "case of Minhakryon" with us failed, the Pak Jung Hi clique brought forth the "case of the PRP" to create a false impression that "Minhakryon" was manipulated behind the scene by the "underground communist forces" in south Korea.

The "case of the PRP" was a case trumped up by the South Korean CIA more than 10 years ago to hamper the south Korean people's struggle against the treacherous "ROK-Japan talks".

At that time even the puppet "public prosecutors" who took charge of this "case" presented a collective resignation for the reason that this "case" was not worthy of indictment. As a result, the "case" was dropped and those who were illegally arrested in this connection were found innocent and acquitted.

But last year the Pak Jung Hi clique went so far as to bring forth this trite "case" again in a desperate attempt to brand them as the "forces behind" the youth and students connected with the "case of Minhakryon".

The Pak Jung Hi fascist clique tried hard to cook up all sorts of fabrications: they accused those who drank tea with their friends at tea houses of "conspiring against the state" and described those who lent money to their friends as the suppliers of "political funds for the violent revolution".

But the speeches of the witnesses during the trial and irrefutable material evidences including bonds of debt have graphically proved that they have nothing to do with "backstage manipulation".

This notwithstanding, the Pak Jung Hi fascist blackguards committed such thrice-cursed brutalities as depriving those involved in this "case" of their senses through savage torture and then forcing them to seal with their thumbs the "indictment" they themselves had worked out and, on this basis, inflicting death and heavy penalties upon them.

That is why the people and personages of all walks of life in south Korea are now fighting vigorously, scathingly condemning the Pak Jung Hi cutthroats who faked up the "case of Minhakryon" and the "case of the PRP" and demanding the immediate acquittal of all the arrested.

Fair-minded public of Japan and many other countries of the world are also raising their voices in support of this struggle.

If the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique mete out punishment to those involved in the "case of Minhakryon" and the "case of the PRP" on the strength of the "anti-communist law" and the "national security law", they will surely be brought to a stern judgement by the people.

Kim Dong Ok

Pak Jung Hi Puppet Clique's Unpardonable Provocation against Gambian People

The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique, the faithful stooges of US imperialism, recently dispatched their pirate ships illegally into the territorial waters of Gambia to commit the criminal piratic act of pillaging the sea resources of this country, according to a report from Banjul.

When the south Korean pirate ships illegally intruded into the Gambian territorial waters, the Gambian government and people took a prompt step in self-defence and captured one of the ships; meting out a severe punishment to them.

This is an entirely just step for the Gambian people to defend the sovereignty and natural resources of the country.

The piratic act committed by the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique is an unpardonable criminal act wantonly trampling underfoot the sacred sovereignty of Gambia, a full-fledged sovereign and independent state.

This is a high-handed provocative act which can be committed only by such freebooters as the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique who are faithful to their US imperialist master whose job is aggression and pillage against other countries.

As already reported, the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique repeatedly committed this year, too, outrageous piratic acts against the northern half of the Republic in the East Sea and West Sea of our country only to invite the unanimous protest and denunciation of the Korean people and the world peaceloving people.

And this time, pirate ships of the Pak Jung Hi clique committed a criminal provocative act, intruding into the faraway coastal waters of West Africa. This shows that the Pak Jung Hi clique who are zealously following the US imperialist policy of aggression are the truculent enemy of the African and third world peoples.

The piratic act committed by the Pak Jung Hi clique at a time when the third world peoples including the Gambian people are firmly determined to resolutely defend their natural resources, sea resources in particular, against the pillage by the imperialists is an unpardonable, grave challenge to the Gambian people and other African peoples and, furthermore, to the third world peoples.

The Gambian people and the third world peoples will never tolerate the provocation of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique.

If the Pak Jung Hi clique persist in their reckless provocative acts going against the trend of the times and the desires of the people, failing to look straight at reality, they will meet a more miserable end.

(KCNA)

A Cross-examination Excites Boisterous Laughter

Memo Written by a South Korean Student in Prison

Follows an excerpt from the memo a south Korean student wrote in prison after being arrested on a suspicion of having been involved in the "case of Minhakryon (the National Federation of Youth and Students for Democracy)."

* * *

I was cross-examined by the chief judge.

"What caused you to form the 'Minhakryon' and what for?" He asked.

"The name of 'Minhakryon' is symbolic. It was clearly written on the leaflets."

"Now its aim and resolution?"

"It is to bring dictatorship to an end and realize democracy."

"Then why have you had connection with the communists?"

"No, I haven't."

"What instructions have you received through the north Korean broadcast?"

"I have never received any instructions, but only heard the north Korean broadcast. We are the same fellow countrymen."

"Why did you keep a pamphlet 'The Report to the Fifth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea'?"

"There was none of the sort in my home. The book is said to have been found by plain-clothes men when they searched my house. But that's doubtful."

"You mean you haven't read it. Don't you? Then why did you get in touch with Tachikawa, a Japanese?"

"He is a Japanese newsman. I simply responded to the questions he put to me while covering something. Ask him if this is not true."

"You are denying all the truth contained in the indictment."

"I am telling the truth. That's all."

"Here is an affidavit sealed with your thumb."

"It is a sham affidavit made by the CIA. I was put to torture by electric shock and water and by preventing me from sleeping, etc. It lasted for 12 days. I was forced to make false statement. I haven't sealed anything with my thumb. They took up my hand and sealed the affidavit with my thumb while I lay unconscious. Can you call it a legally effective document?"

The chief judge rang the bell to stop me from speaking.

"Well, you drew up the 'declaration for the masses, the nation and democracy', didn't you?"

"Yes, I did."

"You said you had nothing to do with communism. But you put the term 'neo-colonialism' into your declaration though you knew that it was a favourite with the communists, didn't you? And what is your explanation for it?"

He looked somewhat irritated.

"The term 'neo-colonialism' is widely used in the third world, needless to say. And anyone can see that it is also a conception familiar to any subscribers for the south Korean newspapers and magazines."

We gave vent to roars of Gargantuan laughter.

The chief judge and judges, a pack of brazen-faced fascist hangmen, were much upset.

"You can't deny the fact that the song 'Crows of mountain, don't scream over his corpse'.... is a favourite with the communists, can you?" The prosecutor put in in the hope of getting the chief judge out of trouble. He must have thought he could produce a convincing evidence.

I retorted:

"It goes on something like this. 'Crows of the mountain, don't scream over his corpse. Though his flesh decays, his revolutionary spirit will not die....' It was sung not only by the communists but the patriots engaged in the anti-Japanese struggle. This is a fact known to all but those who served the Japanese dwarfs as cat's-paw. So wrote the article of Mr. Tae Yun Gi's 'Reminiscences of the Yellow River' carried by the May 1970 issue of journal 'Sasangge', if I remember correctly."

Another laughter swept the court.

The chief judge banned further statement. It seemed that there was no need for him to carry the cross-examination any farther.

GANGSTERS' CRIME: THEY SELL OFF TEENAGE GIRLS TO YANKEE IMPERIALIST AGGRESSORS

A certain Kim residing in central district, Seoul, and other gangsters sold more than 180 teenage girls to dens of US imperialist aggression army brutes at 2,850,000 *won*, according to a report from Seoul.

This is a criminal act that can be seen only in cursed south Korean society where the US imperialist wolves ride roughshod and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique, a gang of traitors, maintain the anti-popular rule. It has lashed the people into a bitter fury at the enemy.

Due to the treacherous crimes of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique who are prolonging their dirty lives clinging to the sleeves of their US masters, numerous women of south Korea undergo all sorts of national humiliation and maltreatment and unbearable insult, having been sold off as "comfort girls" of the beastly US imperialist aggression troops or forced to serve in the "Kisaeng tourism".

Patronized and encouraged by the traitorous Pak Jung Hi puppet clique who make no bones of selling compatriots to foreign marauders for prolonging their dirty lives, the gangsters have openly committed the criminal act of selling off teenage girls to the aggressors as playthings in south Korea.

More unbearable misfortunes and sufferings will be imposed upon the south Korean people and women, unless the occupation of south Korea by the US imperialist aggression forces is ended and the traitorous Pak Jung Hi clique are swept away.

(KCNA)

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